

CDF NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



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Parents are Liable for Fireworks Damage Caused by Their Children

Sacramento- If your children cause a fire, you could get the bill for putting it out. That is the message from the Office of the California State Fire Marshal (OSFM) and the firefighters of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF).

“We remind all parents to watch their children closely this holiday and report any fires immediately,” said Randy Roxson, Assistant Deputy Director State Fire Marshal Operations. “Even if they are playing with Safe and Sane fireworks they could still cause a fire. If a responsible adult reports it quickly, we can usually put it out in time.”

Safe and Sane are the only fireworks approved for use in California. They will carry the seal of the State Fire Marshal on the device. Anything else is illegal to use or possess. “A general rule: if it flies through the air or explodes, it’s illegal,” added Chief Roxson. “Safe and Sane fireworks are designed to be less likely to cause a fire, but just like your kitchen stove, they are burning, and the fire could escape. Always watch closely, and have a water hose nearby, just in case. And if the fire escapes your control, call 911 immediately.”

For more information about fireworks safety see the CDF/OSFM Safety Sheet ([English](#)) and ([Spanish](#)) and visit the CDF website – www.fire.ca.gov

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